REMARKS

Claims 1-34 remain in this application. No claim amendments have been made. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested. More specifically, because the Examiner's rejections have clearly demonstrated a lack of understanding of the claim limitations even after a prior Response, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner devote sufficient time to reading this Response and the prior Response, if necessary, in order to adequately examine the claims. If the Examiner believes a telephone call would help to further clarify the issues-at-hand, please feel free to call the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 29 was rejected over O'Brien (6,351,776). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 29 recites:

> A user internet file system comprises:
> a received folder that contains folders representing files and folders that have been *shared with a user and the names of those who shared the files and folders with the user*; and
> a friends folder that contains the *user's objects and community folders that contain information that are of interest to the user*. (emphasis added)

MPEP § 2131 provides that "[t]o anticipate a claim, the reference must teach **every** element of the claim...." (emphasis added) However, O'Brien neither teaches nor shows all of the limitations in claim 29. The received folder "contains folders representing files and folders that have been shared with a user and the names of those who shared the files and folders with the user." O'Brien is devoid of any mention of any mechanism that stores the "names of those who shared the files and folders with the user." The Examiner does not provide any guidance on what in O'Brien she believes to anticipate this limitation in both Office Actions. The Examiner's statement, "all the access rights of a received folder correspond to the well-known access rights of a private folder and all the access rights of a friends folder correspond to the well-known access rights of a public folder" is not

R71911

helpful. The undersigned is not aware of any "public folder" in O'Brien or elsewhere that specifies the names of other users that have given this user access rights. The term "public," by definition, does not have any restriction of access. The only restriction in access of such public folders are network-related security mechanisms or session login mechanisms such as user name and passwords mentioned in O'Brien (Col. 10, lines 24-29).

Furthermore, the Examiner's statement, "all the access rights of a received folder correspond to the well-known access rights of a private folder and all the access rights of a friends folder correspond to the well-known access rights of a public folder" demonstrates the *Examiner's absolute and total misunderstanding* of the claimed limitations in claim 29. Let's carefully parse the limitations in simplified language for the Examiner's benefit.

Limitation 1 is: "a received folder that contains folders representing files and folders that have been shared with a user and the names of those who shared the files and folders with the user." In other words, in this received folder are things that *other people are sharing with the user*. This received folder also contains the names of these other people that shared these things with the user. Stated differently, this received folder does NOT contain things that this user desires to share with other people and the names of those other people. This received folder *clearly does not* sound or look like a private folder in the conventional sense of the term by any stretch of the imagination. O'Brien does not teach or suggest such limitation, whether implemented by business rules or not.

Going on to limitation 2: "a friends folder that contains the user's objects and community folders that contain information that are of interest to the user." The Examiner equates this to a public folder. Again, this is incorrect. The community folders contain "folders for the other users that are in the community,...which includes the files and folders that have been shared with the community." (Page 5, lines 5 and 6). The term "community" is defined as a collection "of users with a common interest." (Page 5, line 16). This is clearly not a public folder and is not taught or suggested by O'Brien.

R71911

Perhaps the notion of the friends folder and received folder is so contrary to known concepts that it is difficult for the Examiner to imagine it or to see it, but claim 29 clearly sets out limitations that are not shown in O'Brien. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner carefully read claim 29 in view of the above AND refer to page 5 of the specification for additional information that provides further illustration of the claimed limitations.

The Examiner's repeated reference of the Abstract, FIG. 13, Col. 20, lines 21-52 of O'Brien for supporting the rejection fails miserably. None of these locations referenced by the Examiner teach the claim – the Abstract talks generally about "Internet-based file storage, retrieval, access, control, and manipulation for a user."; FIG. 13 depicts "a Windows™ desktop display showing both the client and web-browser applications." (Col. 5, lines 14-15); and the text in Col. 20 references FIG. 13 and "directory structures of web-based application window 1350 and the client-based application window 1320." In fact, a careful reading and examination of the entire reference does not yield any discussion of the limitations of claim 29.

It is clear that O'Brien does not teach in any manner or form the elements of claim 29. It is impermissible to make the quantum leap from an Internet-based file storage system disclosed by O'Brien to the claim limitations without any teaching or suggestion. In fact, nothing in O'Brien can even be twisted to provide a teaching of the received and friends folders in claim 29. Therefore, the rejection is not supported by the O'Brien and must be withdrawn.

Claims 30 and 31, which were also rejected for the same reasons, depend from claim 29. Claims 30 and 31 set forth additional limitations. Claim 30 and 31 are patentable over O'Brien for the same reasons as provided above.

R71911

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

CLAIM 1

Independent claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over O'Brien and Mishra (6,389,589). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Applicants again traverse this rejection on the grounds that these references are defective in establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to claim 1. Claim 1 cites,

> A method for configuring an internet file system, the method comprising:
> accessing, by a user, a server that is configured with an application;
> creating, by the application, an internet file system for the user;
> storing, by a directory, a home folder of the user, wherein folders and files in the home folder are available at a root of the internet file system;
> providing, by the application, a first folder and a second folder in a root of the home folder, the first folder containing folders that represent *folders and files that have been shared with the user*, and the second folder containing *objects of the user and communities that are of interest to the user*; and
> creating, by the application, an auxiliary class containing a first attribute, a second attribute, and a third attribute, wherein the first attribute is used *to quickly find other users that the folders and the files in the home folder have been shared with*, the second attribute is used to store *names of the other users* and a *path of the folders and the files that have been shared with the user*, and the third attribute is used to *allow the user and other users with common interests to share folders and files of the common interest*. (emphasis added)

The MPEP § 2142 provides:

> *... The examiner bears the initial burden of factually supporting any prima facie conclusion of obviousness. If the examiner does not produce a prima facie case, the applicant is under no obligation to submit evidence of nonobviousness...*

It is submitted that, in the present case, the Examiner has not factually supported a *prima facie* case of obviousness. In fact, as established above, the Examiner does not have an understanding of the claimed limitations. O'Brien does not provide for the first and second folders

R71911

of claim 1 or other limitations thereof, but merely provides a database that may be searched for Internet-based files. Mishra, on the other hand, provides an application deployment management system. (See Col. 9, line 39 - Col. 10, line 35). In particular, Mishra provides for,

> [I]f application management is set up for a group policy,..., a class store 70 is created under the group policy 66_B, essentially to store the state of deployment of managed applications....As described in detail below, via the policy 68_B and the associated class store 70, applications and components may be assigned to a policy recipient comprising a group of users, individual users, or to individual computers of a directory container such as the organizational unit 66_B. (Col. 5, lines 8-11; Col. 5, lines 60-65).

It is clear to see that Mishra permits an organization to manage access to its applications, and as such it is not a mechanism to allow a user to share files with other users. Therefore, neither reference provide the teachings of the limitations in claim 1. This rejection should therefore be withdrawn. Claims 2-7 depending from claim 1 are also patentable.

Prior arguments in the prior Response relevant to this rejection are re-instated herein in its entirety without repetition herein.

CLAIM 8

Independent claim 8 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by O'Brien and Mishra. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Applicants traverse this rejection on the grounds that these references are defective in establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to claim 8. Claim 8 cites,

> A method for file sharing, the method comprising:
> sharing, by a first user, a file with a second user;
> adding, by an application, the first user to a third attribute of the second user;
> adding, by the application, the second user to a third attribute of the first user;
> adding, by the application, a path of the shared file and a user name of the second user to a
> first attribute of the first user;

R71911

adding, by the application, the path of the shared file and a user name of the first user to a second attribute of the second user; and

making available, by the application, the first attribute through a folder of the second attribute, wherein the folder belongs to the second user.

Again, the Examiner failed to support the rejection with any specifics. The text at columns 19 and 20 referenced by the Examiner fails to teach the limitations in claim 8. For example, where does O'Brien or Mishra teach "adding, by an application, the first user to a third attribute of the second user?" Nothing in O'Brien or Mishra can be construed in such a way. Where does O'Brien or Mishra teach "adding, by the application, the second user to a third attribute of the first user?" Where does O'Brien or Mishra teach "adding, by the application, a path of the shared file and a user name of the second user to a first attribute of the first user?" Where does O'Brien or Mishra teach "adding, by the application, the path of the shared file and a user name of the first user to a second attribute of the second user?" Where does O'Brien or Mishra teach "making available, by the application, the first attribute through a folder of the second attribute, wherein the folder belongs to the second user?" Applicants can find none and the Examiner has not provided any guidance. Indeed, neither O'Brien nor Mishra teach the limitations of claim 8.

The MPEP § 2142 provides:

> ... *The examiner bears the initial burden of factually supporting any prima facie conclusion of obviousness. If the examiner does not produce a prima facie case, the applicant is under no obligation to submit evidence of nonobviousness...*

It is submitted that, in the present case, the Examiner has not factually supported a prima facie case of obviousness and the rejection must be withdrawn.

Claims 9-17 depend from independent claim 8 are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above. Prior arguments in the prior Response relevant to this rejection are re-instated herein without repetition herein.

CLAIM 25

Independent claim 25 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over O'Brien and Mishra. Applicants traverse this rejection on the grounds that these references are defective in establishing a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to claim 25. Claim 25 cites,

> A system for configuring an internet file system, the system comprises:
> a server configured with an application, wherein a user accesses the application and the application creates an internet file system for the user; and
> a directory that stores a home folder of the user, wherein folders and files in the home folder are available at a root of the internet file system, wherein the application further provides a plurality of folders in a root of the home folder, and wherein the application further creates an auxiliary class containing a plurality of attributes.

The MPEP § 2142 provides:

> *... The examiner bears the initial burden of factually supporting any prima facie conclusion of obviousness. If the examiner does not produce a prima facie case, the applicant is under no obligation to submit evidence of nonobviousness...*

It is submitted that, in the present case, the examiner has not factually supported a prima facie case of obviousness. O'Brien provides a database that may be searched for Internet-based files. Mishra provides an application deployment management system. (See Col. 9, line 39 - Col. 10, line 35). Neither provide the teaching of the limitations in claim 25. This rejection should therefore be withdrawn. Prior arguments in the prior Response relevant to this rejection are re-instated herein without repetition herein.

Claims 26 and 27 depending from claim 25 are also allowable.

R71911

CLAIM 28

Independent claim 28 was similarly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over O'Brien and Mishra. Applicants traverse this rejection on the grounds that these references are defective in establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to claim 28. Claim 28 cites,

> A system for file sharing, the system comprises:
> means for sharing, by a first user, a file with a second user;
> means for adding, by an application, the first user to a third attribute of the second user;
> means for adding, by the application, the second user to a third attribute of the first user;
> means for adding, by the application, a path of the shared file and a user name of the second user to a first attribute of the first user;
> means for adding, by the application, the path of the shared file and a user name of the first user to a second attribute of the second user; and
> means for making available, by the application, the first attribute through a folder of the second attribute, wherein the folder belongs to the second user.

The MPEP § 2142 provides:

> *... The examiner bears the initial burden of factually supporting any prima facie conclusion of obviousness. If the examiner does not produce a prima facie case, the applicant is under no obligation to submit evidence of nonobviousness...*

It is submitted that, in the present case, the examiner has not supported a prima facie case of obviousness. O'Brien provides a database that may be searched for Internet-based files. Mishra provides an application deployment management system. Neither provide the teaching of the limitations in claim 28. This rejection should therefore be withdrawn. Prior arguments in the prior Response relevant to this rejection are re-instated herein without repetition herein.

R71911

CLAIM 32

Independent claim 32 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the O'Brien-Mishra combination. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 32 cites,

> A directory comprises:
> a user object;
> a home folder of the user, wherein the home folder is an attribute of the user object;
> an auxiliary class attached to the user object when files are shared with the user;
> a community folder that includes topics of interest to the user; and
> a group object associated with each topic of interest.

The MPEP § 2142 provides that the Examiner "bears the initial burden of factually supporting any *prima facie* conclusion of obviousness." Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to do so. O'Brien provides a database that may be searched for Internet-based files. Mishra provides an application deployment management system. Neither provide the teaching of the limitations in claim 32. This rejection should therefore be withdrawn. Prior arguments in the prior Response relevant to this rejection are re-instated herein without repetition herein.

Claim 33 depends from independent claim 32 and is therefore patentable for the same reasons as set forth above.

CLAIM 34

Independent claim 34 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over O'Brien and Mishra. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 34 cites,

> A software application executable on a computer, the application comprising:
> creating a user internet file system;
> providing files in a root of a user's home folder; and
> creating an auxiliary class attached to an object of the user if the files are shared via the internet file system.

R71911

The MPEP § 2142 provides that the Examiner "bears the initial burden of factually supporting any *prima facie* conclusion of obviousness." Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to do so. O'Brien provides a database that may be searched for Internet-based files. Mishra provides an application deployment management system. (See Col. 9, line 39 - Col. 10, line 35). Neither provide the teaching of the limitations in claim 34. This rejection should therefore be withdrawn. Prior arguments in the prior Response relevant to this rejection are re-instated herein without repetition.

CLAIM 18

Independent claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by O'Brien and Mishra, and further in view of "Role-Based Access Control" by Ferraiolo et al. (the "Ferraiolo reference"). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Applicants traverse this rejection on the grounds that these references do not establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to claim 18. Claim 18 cites,

> A method for creating user objects in a directory, the method comprising:
> if a user shares a folder with another user who is not registered with an application in the directory, creating a temporary user object with an email address as a name of the another user;
> submitting, by the another user, a registration form;
> determining, by a script, if the email address corresponds with the another user; and
> if the email address corresponds with the another user, updating the temporary user object based on information provided in the registration form.

The MPEP § 2142 provides:

> ... *The examiner bears the initial burden of factually supporting any prima facie conclusion of obviousness. If the examiner does not produce a prima facie case, the applicant is under no obligation to submit evidence of nonobviousness...*

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not factually supported a *prima facie* case of obviousness. As discussed above, O'Brien provides a database that may be searched for Internet-based files. Mishra provides an application deployment management system. The Ferraiolo reference provides for allowing access to resources based on a user's ***defined role not his/her identity***. Indeed, the Examiner is misguided in using the Ferraiolo reference as a basis of this rejection.

The Ferraiolo reference provides that "DAC is an access control mechanism that permits system users to allow or disallow other users access to objects under their control...based on the identity of subjects and/or groups to which they belong." (Bottom of Page 2). "A DAC mechanism allows users to grant or revoke access to any of the objects under their control without the intercession of a system administrator." (Top of Page 3). DAC, as pointed out by the authors, is *fundamentally different* from a role-based access control policy (RBAC) because in RBAC, "users *cannot* pass access permission on to other users at their discretion." (Page 3, third full paragraph). The Ferraiolo reference then goes on to discuss RBAC in more detail and does not provide any further guidance on DAC. In forming the rejection of claim 18, the Examiner pointed to page 4 of the Ferraiolo reference that further discusses RBAC. By doing so, the Examiner is essentially citing a contrary teaching to reject claim 18.
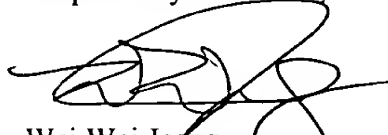
Therefore, none of the references either alone or in combination provide the teaching of the limitations in claim 18. This rejection should therefore be withdrawn. Prior arguments in the prior Response relevant to this rejection are re-instated herein without repetition.

Claims 21-24 depend from independent claim 18 and provide additional limitations thereto. Claims 21-24 are therefore also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above.

R71911

Conclusion

It is clear from all of the foregoing that claims 1-34 pending in this application are allowable. An early formal notice of allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Wei Wei Jeang
Registration No. 33,305

Dated: Sept. 3, 2004

HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP
901 Main Street, Suite 3100
Dallas, Texas 75202-3789
Telephone: 972/739-8631
Facsimile: 214-200-0853
Client Matter No.: 26530.18

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on: 9-3-04

Bonnie Boyle
Signature of person mailing paper and fee

R71911